

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 13 2006

Practitioner's Docket No.: 100\_019

PATENT

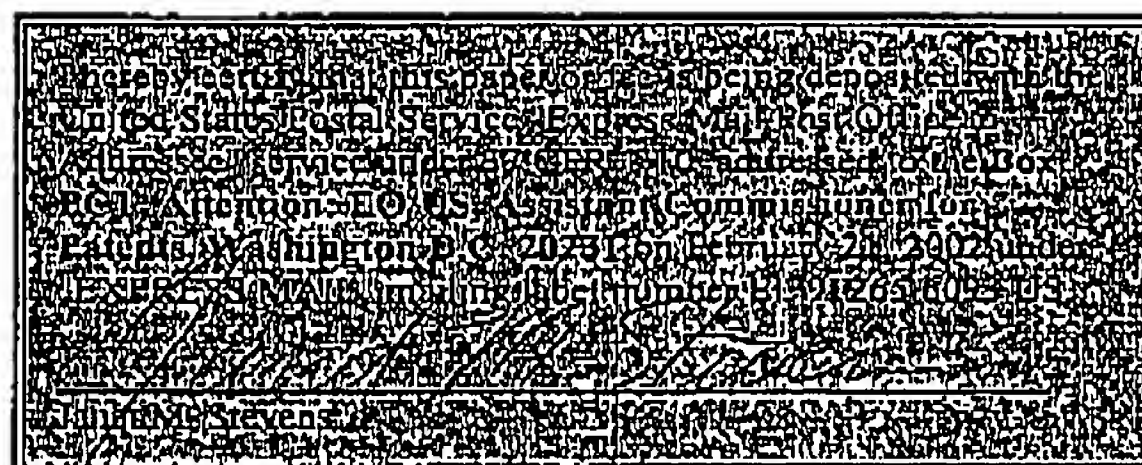
## IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE (EO/US)

PCT/AU00/00998	24.08.2000	25.08.1999
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

TITLE OF INVENTION  
A SWITCH AND A DISTRIBUTED NETWORK PROTECTION SWITCHING SYSTEM  
INCORPORATING SAID SWITCH

APPLICANT(S) FOR EO/US  
MARCHANT, Nils

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Attention: DO/US

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the present application as follows:

## In the Claims:

Please amend claims 4-13, 15-17 and 21-23 to read as follows: .

4. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein , said predetermined characteristic is the absence of said flow for said period  $T_{wait}$ .
5. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein said period  $T_{wait}$  is 0.
6. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein said period  $T_{wait}$  is different for each of  $P_1$ - $P_3$ .

BEST AVAILABLE COPY